

COMIC SHOP NEWS™

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From

COBBLESTONE BOOKS

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A Comics Specialty Outlet

OCTOBER
PICTURE

Deadface, Eddie Campbell's complex story that brings characters from Greek mythology into a surreal world of Campbell's own creation, was a comic that seemed to be cursed with bad timing. Harrier Comics published the series in 1986 at the time of the black-and-white implosion; as a result, many fans never had a chance to see this quirky title.

In 1991, Dark Horse intends to revive **Deadface** in an all-new series. Before they do, however, they want to give fans a chance to see the original **Dead-**



Deadface Finds New Life at Dark Horse

face; that's the motivation behind **Deadface: Immortality Isn't Forever**, a 200-page graphic novel collection of the entire original **Deadface** run. **Immortality Isn't Forever** isn't just a reprint volume, though; Eddie Campbell and his collaborator Ed Hillyer have reworked much of the original art for the graphic novel presentation.

"This is the perfect format in which to present Eddie's wonderful stories," editor Diana Schutz said, "and having been an avid reader of his for quite some time now it's a real pleasure to be

working with Eddie on this project."

The graphic novel reprints all eight issues of Harrier's **Dead-**

face run in one 8.5" x 11" volume. In these pages, readers will meet such characters as Bacchus, the god of wine and revelry; the Eyeball Kid; and Joe Theseus, the only guy to possess the secret of eternal youth. Things don't always run smoothly between these characters; it seems that the Eyeball Kid has it in for Joe, Joe has it in for Bacchus, and Bacchus...well, he really just wants to get drunk all the time...

Schutz said, "We're going all out on the production of this book...this is a high-quality,



thoroughly entertaining book that's being released just in time for the holiday gift-giving season."

Deadface: Immortality Isn't Forever will also feature all-new painted front and back covers by Eddie Campbell. The book will serve as a precursor to the aforementioned all-new **Deadface** series on line for 1991. The graphic novel, which is intended for adults because of harsh language and nudity, is priced at \$14.95 and is due out in late November.

by WAYNE LEE



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World Without End Offers Meaty Fantasy Tale

Too many fantasy series recycle the same tired concepts—but that's an accusation that no one will make against writer Jamie Delano once his new series **World Without End** debuts. Rather than bringing in some elves, trolls, dwarves, gnomes, and wizards, Delano has created

a bizarre world of flesh that takes the conflict between male and female to surreal extreme.

World Without End is set in a future world called the Host—a world grown entirely out of flesh. the epicenter of this world is Bedlam, the city of the male supremacist society of The

Gess. The story focuses on the war between the men and women of this world—a sex war which has no real winners. It appears that the Gess are the champions of the sex wars—but there's a new female energy inspiring the subjugated Skittons. Determined to restore their status quo, the Gess call on the super-commando, Brother Bones, to defend their way of life—but it turns out that the women have a heroine of their own, Rumour, who might be more than a match for Brother Bones.

John Higgins, the color artist of **Batman: The Killing Joke** and **Watchmen**, is the artist of **World Without End**. He is preparing each page of the book in fully painted color. To present his art in a quality format while keeping the book as affordable as possible, DC has created a new format for this title. The new format, which falls midway between the deluxe format used for

many titles and the upscale prestige format, will utilize heavier high-quality paper stock for the book—but it will also have a less expensive binding than prestige-format titles. The price of the new format is closer to the deluxe format: **World Without End** will carry a \$2.50 price tag for each 32-page issue.

To make sure readers are aware of the mature-readers **World Without End**, DC will include short previews of the series in issues of **Hellblazer**, **Sandman**, **Shade the Changing Man**, **Swamp Thing**, and **Doom Patrol** shipping shortly before

the new series' debut.

World Without End #1 is set for November 8th release.

by WAYNE LEE



Paranoia Runs Rampant At Adventure Comics

If you really do think that someone out there is trying to get you, then Adventure Comics has just the book for you. **Paranoia**, a comic book based on the popular gaming system from West End Games, is a comic in which you can trust no one, and everyone really might be out to get you—unless you get them first.

"How could we pass on a project with a name like **Paranoia**? Any game that instills ignorance and fear in its players is a natural for us," Adventure Comics creative director Tom Mason said. "Now, if I could only do the

same with our production staff."

"It's a lot like real life," Adventure editor-in-chief Chris Ulm said. "A game like **Paranoia** cries out to be adapted into comic book format—and Adventure is just the company to do it."

Paranoia is set in Alpha Complex, where the omnipotent (and not very benevolent) Computer is in control. As a Red-Level clone-citizen, your duty is to uncover traitors, members of secret societies, and mutants—or, for that matter, anyone who questions the Computer in any way. What the computer

doesn't realize is that you're a mutant, you belong to a secret society, and you question the Computer's judgment. So how long can you survive in this world? As long as you can get them—before they get you...

Paranoia will be an original story based on the world of the role-playing game, so readers who aren't familiar with the game will still be able to enjoy the comic book. However, Chris Ulm said, "Although you don't have to play the game to enjoy the comic, supplemental material will be available so that gamers can use the characters

and locales for their own games. Releasing details of the actual story at this juncture is a traitorous act, but I will say that the **Paranoia** comic series will have all of the terror, mad scientists, crazed bureaucrats, mutants, insane robots, and dangerous weapons that **Paranoia** veterans expect—all in graphic two-dimensional detail!"

Adventure plans to debut **Paranoia** in the spring of 1991; **CSN** will announce the creative team as soon as they are chosen by Adventure.

by ALEX KIRKLAND

NEWS BRIEFS

FIRST REVEALS GRAPHIC DETAILS FOR '91

First Comics, a mainstay in the comics market since 1982, recently announced major alterations in the company's entire line of books beginning at the end of this year and continuing into 1991. Late this year and early next year, First will bring its entire line of monthly comics to an end, replacing them with a series of upscale-format limited series and special issues.

"Production of monthly, standard-format 32-page color comics is incredibly labor intensive," said First's Creative Director **Kurt Goldzung**. "The effort of maintaining our high standards was beginning to take its toll on the talent working on these titles, as well as our editorial, production, and sales departments. And, in the midst of the tumultuous climate of today's direct sales marketplace, it was becoming increasingly difficult to compete profitably at this format's \$2.25 price point."

"So rather than compromise the quality of our product, the creative integrity of our writers and artists, and the sanity of our in-house staff, we have elected to discontinue our monthly standard-format comics in favor of a line of 48-page full-color perfect-bound limited series and specials. This concept was originally developed for *Nexus* to allow creators **Mike Baron** and **Steve Rude** to work together again. It soon became obvious that this was a logical course of action to follow for our other titles as well. We will now have considerably more time, energy, and financial resources to spend doing the types of projects we really want to do, and doing them right."

Goldzung reports that the creators are very excited about the changes. "John Ostrander called it 'a bold move that should please everyone who loves comics,' but...Mike Baron put it most succinctly: 'It's about time!'" Goldzung said.

Dreadstar #64 (November 1990) is the final monthly issue of this title; *Badger* #70 and *Meta-4* #3 (December 1990) end these series; and *Nexus* #80 and *Grimjack* #81 (January 1991) are the final issues of these series. *Lone Wolf and Cub* and *Classics Illustrated* will continue in their current formats.

In 1991, First will debut several upscale-format series, including *Nexus the Liberator* by Baron and Rude; *Hammer of God II*, written by Roger Salick; *Meta-4* by Petrucha and Gibson; *Grimjack* by Ostrander and Henry; *Munden's Bar Annual*; *Dreadstar*; *Squalor*; *Badger Bedlam* (and three other Badger series!); *The Blue Witch of Oz* (a new Eric Shanower Oz graphic novel); *Beauty and the Beast III*; a second *Betty Boop* book; and a variety of new projects.

First is optimistic that the changes will help them reestablish their strong position in the comic shop marketplace. In summing up, Kurt Goldzung quotes editor **Anina Bennet's** statement, "Ten years ago First reinvented comics; we're about to do it again!"



REVOLUTIONARY WAR WITH NEW KIDS COMES TO END

Revolutionary Comics has negotiated a peaceful settlement in its dispute with New Kids on the Block over *Rock and Roll Comics* #12, the infamous New Kids issue. New Kids have agreed not to pursue any further action against Revolutionary Comics. "We were prepared to go into battle, and they called off the war!" **Todd Loren**, president of Revolutionary Comics, said.

Revolutionary Comics also announced that they would not reprint the New Kids issue in the future (although Loren says that they have the right to do so). "The New Kids issue of *Rock 'n' Roll Comics* was a mistake not from a legal standpoint, but because our readers were offended by the idea of the New Kids 'disgracing' the cover of an issue of *Rock 'n' Roll Comics*. I really didn't realize just how much our readers disliked them. What we should have done is a total satirical book designed for rockers who are sick of the New Kids. Hopefully, this will appease our readers who felt betrayed when we did a New Kids book. It'll be called the *New Kids Hate Book*, and should be out around November."

A STAR(MAN) IS REBORN

If you had super-powers, would you fight for good and justice like Ultraguy, or would you make your life as comfortable as possible like Joe Power? That's the dilemma that Starman faces in "The Seduction of Starman," a four-part story beginning in *Starman* #30. In this storyline, Starman begins to lose sight of his responsibilities as a super-powered hero, and starts working to give himself everything he needs to make his life very pleasant indeed—including wealth and a beautiful starlet companion. If it sounds like the perfect life to you, then maybe you'll want to check out how it affects Starman. **Strazewski**, **Hoover**, and **Hanna** bring you the opening installment of this tale on November 29th.



BETCHA HE'S NO FUN ON DATES...

On the strange living world of *World Without End*, men and women are engaged in a rather vicious war of the sexes—a war for control of civilization on their planet. *World Without End* #2 introduces the secret weapon that men hope to use to eradicate womankind from their world: Brother Bones! The male supremacist "hero" is born in the second issue of this six-issue limited series, brought to you by **Jamie Delano** and **John Higgins**. *World Without End* #2, a mature-readers 32-page comic priced at \$2.50, is scheduled for December 6th release.

WEB OF FORTUNE

Web of Spider-Man 71 and 72, a two-part by **Danny Fingeroth**, **David Ross**, and **Andy Mushynsky**, features two guest-stars who have a fan following of their own: Silver Sable and Dominic Fortune. After the tremendous response to Ross' Wolverine-Hulk serial in *Marvel Comics Presents*, lots of folks are sure to be curious about his Spider-Man interpretation. Look for part one of this two-part on October 10th; the second part will show up on November 8th.

TWILIGHT TOME

Remember photonovels? These books offered high-quality photographs from films or television shows, accompanied by text from the show's script. Some photonovels, such as the *Star Trek* volumes, are not only well-remembered today, but are highly collectible. Few publishers have produced new photonovels in recent years, though, and some speculated that they had fallen victim to the video age.

Arlen Schumer certainly doesn't think so; this month, he begins an ambitious new project to offer a series of *Twilight Zone* photonovels under the title *Visions of the Twilight Zone*. The first 180-page book will adapt "The Eye of the Beholder" in a unique format that is designed to duplicate the experience of watching a black and white television screen. Schumer has also included essays by the late **Rod Serling**, his wife **Carol**, *Twilight Zone* producer **Buck Houghton**, and *Village Voice* film critic **J. Hoberman**.

Visions From the Twilight Zone is available as a \$19.95 trade paperback and a \$35 hardcover; be sure to let your local comic shop know that you're interested.

QUASAR'S BACK TO THE COSMOS

Quasar's Journey Into Mystery wasn't cosmic enough for you? Then maybe *Cosmos In Collision* is the sort of cosmic action you've been waiting for. This seven-part storyline begins in *Quasar* #19; it features **Kronos**, the **Jack of Hearts**, and the **Squadron Supreme**, as well as the mysterious cosmic menace destined to be his nemesis ever since he first took on the role of Protector of the Universe. If you're looking for something a little less cosmic, then there are a few down-to-earth plot twists in this miniseries-within-a-series; for example, Quasar will reveal his secret identity to his secretary, **Kayla Valentine**—and you can bet that's going to shake up his personal life! **Gruenwald**, **Capullo**, and **Williams** give you the first installment of *Cosmos In Collision* on December 13th.

BREAKING & ENTERTAINING

Paul Grist's earlier project for Trident, *St. Swifthin's Day*, was a serious, almost manic work. His *Lucifer* is a grand fantasy. His *Burglar Bill*, however, is all too real and much more lighthearted. *Burglar Bill* is the story of a burglar who really is innocent—honest! And this time his pleas of innocence are true—but none of that means anything to **Stephen Hill**, the novice policeman who arrested **Bill** without any evidence, or **Kelvin Flats**, the veteran constable who is Stephen's role model. Without evidence, **Bill** is soon out on the streets...but now Stephen and Kelvin are really aggravated, and they're determined to make his freedom very unpleasant. *Burglar Bill* begins in October; the 24-page comic is priced at \$2.25.



ADAMS AND KUBERT ON GI JOE?!

Hey, we're not kidding here! *GI Joe* #108 will indeed feature artwork by **Neal Adams** and **Andy Kubert**! They won't be doing the lead story—**Larry Hama**, **Mark Bright**, and **Randy Emberlin** are still in charge of that—but they are contributing pages to a new feature, the *GI Joe Dossier*, that'll run in the back of each issue of this title. Kubert is illustrating the Snake-Eyes page, while Neal Adams presents his rendition of the Cobra Commander. Upcoming issues will feature artwork from **Adam Hughes**, **Charles Vess**, **Javier Saltares**, and others, along with *Marvel-Universal*-style info sheets about each character. *GI Joe* #108 is slated for November 22nd release.

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NEWS BRIEFS



VAMPIRE KISSES AGAIN

Barry Blair's *Vampire's Kiss* obviously found an eager audience in comic shops across the country; the adults-only horror limited series has been such a success that Aircel Press has renewed it for a second four-issue limited series entitled *Vampire's Kiss: Bianca's Revenge*.

"I've gone in and re-worked and expanded the series premise," Blair said. "Bianca's back and she's pretty worked up about the events in *Book One*. Only two things can satisfy her at this point: sex and death."

Dave Olbrich, publisher of Aircel, is very pleased with the strong following that Barry Blair's adult series have gained. "Barry has been right there on the cutting edge of the adult comics movement. His *Leather & Lace*—with its contemporary setting—was the first regularly-published adults only comic in the direct market. And he's followed those with the fantasy-oriented *Sapphire* and the horror title *Vampire's Kiss*." *Vampire's Kiss: Bianca's Revenge* begins in December; each issue is priced at \$2.50. A collection of the first miniseries will be published early in 1991 under the title *Vampire's Kiss Book One: The Return of Bianca*.

FORGET SPIDEY'S DILEMMA—WHO'S AUNT MAY DATING?!

Spider-Man, powerless and out-manned, versus Chameleon, Tarantula, Scorpion, and the Femme Fatales, with only the Black Cat to aid him. Will he survive?

Who cares?! Did you hear that Aunt May is dating Willie Lumpkin?!

Whichever one of these two storylines interests you more, you'll find it in *Amazing Spider-Man 343*, on sale November 15th. Oh, here's another reason to pick up this issue: Spider-Man gets his powers back. (We're surprised, aren't you?) David Michelinie and Erik Larsen present the whole spider-story—and you can enjoy it for only a buck!



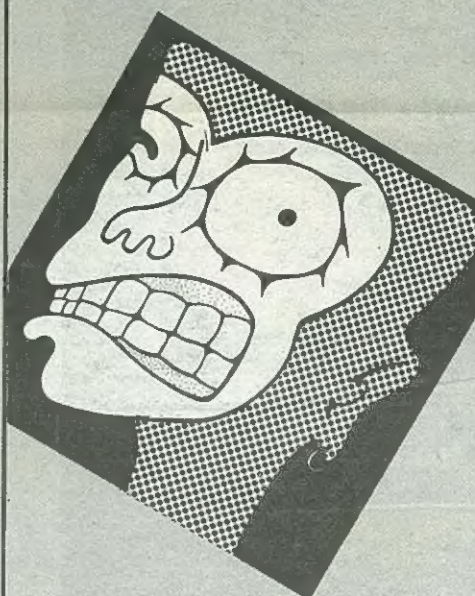
GETTING TO THE CORPS OF THE MATTER

The Green Lantern Corps is coming back? Maybe yes, maybe no. *Green Lantern #8* will answer the question—and it will offer a solution to the problem of the Mad Guardian affair. Hal, Guy, John, and the returned Guardians have to figure out how you can kill an immortal. This issue will also feature our first glimpse at the "new" Oa. *Green Lantern #8*, written by Gerard Jones and illustrated by Pat Broderick and Bruce Patterson, will be on sale November 22nd.

MAD MONKEY HEADS FOR THE LIMITS OF DARK TOWN

In a hospital, a comatose man is unaware that this is his final day. He is to be disconnected from life support in twelve hours, and his body cannot survive without the medical system sustaining him. While the body is dead, though, the mind is quite active on a level that even the most sophisticated medical equipment can't measure. In the world of his mind, he is lost, unable to find the exit back into reality. He is trapped between the realms of dreams and nightmares, in a place called *Dark Town*.

Dark Town, a twelve-issue limited series from Mad Monkey Press, is an ambitious new project from a new publisher in the field. "While most new independent publishers begin with the right intentions, their production values, wafer thin promotional budget, and erratic schedule many times see to their end before they have had an honest chance to get off the ground," Kaja Blackley of Mad Monkey Press said. "This is not the case with Mad Monkey Press."



In order to make readers aware that *Dark Town* isn't just another new comic, Mad Monkey is making it hard for readers not to notice this title on the stands. First, it's a full-color comic book—a rarity in a field where most first-time publishers produce black and white titles. Second, it's printed on 70 lb. high gloss interior stock with 90 lb. high gloss cover stocks—certainly an above average package. Third, each issue will feature 48 pages of story and art at a bargain price of \$2.95. *Dark Town* is set to debut in December; Blackley reports that the book will be published nine times yearly. In 1991, Mad Monkey will follow *Dark Town* with a second title, *Crazy Gorilla Comics*.

NAM FEATURES A HALLEN FAREWELL

The *Nam* #52 will begin a five-part story written by Chuck Dixon; subtitled "The Death of Joe Hallen," this *Nam* story follows marine Joe Hallen through his post-war experiences back home. Hallen finds adjustment to life in America much more difficult than he expected—and at times, it seemed like the war in Vietnam was easier than the psychological war in America. *Nam* #52, illustrated by Wayne Vansant and Tony DeZuniga, is scheduled for November 29th release.



WHAT A TRIPTYCH...

Now here's a poster! In early December, Marvel is releasing one poster by Jim Lee featuring all of the X-Men. Or are they releasing three posters by Jim Lee, each featuring a third of the X-Men? You decide.

The *Jim Lee Triptych* is a trio of posters by Jim Lee, each featuring a third of the X-Men lineup as interpreted by the most popular X-Men artist in many years. These three posters can be put together into one triple-sized poster that'll cover pretty much every bit of free wall space you have. Each poster is priced at \$5.95.

COMIC STRIP SHOWCASE UP IN THE AIR

The 1930's were a time when airlift was relatively new and aviators were seen as heroic figures, both in real life and in comic strips. *Comic Strip Showcase #3*, on sale in November, tries to invoke the feel of that era with a collection of two aviation storylines from the 1930's. This 80-page magazine-sized publication will reprint the very first *Flyin' Jenny* storyline from 10/3/39 through 12/30/39, as well as a *Skyroads* story that originally appeared from 3/12/35 through 9/28/35. Russell Keaton's *Flyin' Jenny* is a female aviatix who wings her way from adventure to adventure; *Skyroads*, featuring rugged adventurer-aviator Hurricane Hawk, is created by Dick Calkins of *Buck Rogers* fame. *Comic Strip Showcase #3*, an Arcadia Publication, is priced at \$7.95.

THERE'S NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT...

The first issue of *Books of Magic* explored the role of magic in the DC Universe's past; in *Books of Magic #2*, subtitled "Shadow World," Neil Gaiman and Scott Hampton take Tim Hunter—and the readers—on a tour of the present-day magical realms of the DC Universe. Along the way, Tim and his guide, John Constantine, meet The Spectre, Dr. Fate, Deadman, Zatanna, and other heroes. Priced at \$4.95, this fully-painted prestige-format 48-page comic is scheduled for December 6th release. (Oh, and just in case there was any confusion—*Books of Magic* is indeed an all-ages series. In fact, it's a must-have book for any and all fan who wants to know about the role of the mystic characters in the DC Universe, regardless of their age!)

CAPTAIN AMERICA DEFEATS SPIDER-MAN!

This winter, Captain America manages to knock Spider-Man right out of the comic shops and into the first part of next year! No lie!

Well, maybe we should explain. Originally, the *Spider-Man bisque* was scheduled to ship this November for Christmas release; when the *Captain America bisque* was delayed until late fall, however, Marvel realized that this would mean that there were two bisques on sale in comic shops at the same time. Since a spare \$100 is a bit hard to come by in the holiday season, even for something as collectible as the Captain America and Spider-Man bisques, Marvel decided to delay the Spidey bisque until early March of 1991. The bisque will still be a hand-painted figure limited to no more than 15,000 copies, and it will still be priced at \$49.95. Be sure to reserve copies with your local comic shop in advance—and tell 'em that CSN sent you.

WELCOME TO THE FEMFORCE IS OUT IN FORCE IN NEW PORTFOLIO

Femforce fans will find a bonus awaiting them in the comic shop this November; in addition to the regular *Femforce #31*, featuring a major turning point in the Black Shroud storyline, AC Comics is also releasing a *Femforce Portfolio* featuring illustrations of Ms. Victory, Nightveil, Dragonfly, and others as delineated by Mark Helke, Will Meugniot, Chris Marimon, Rik Levins, and others. The portfolio will feature both color and black and white illustrations in a 44-page package priced at \$3.95.



CSN HOT PICKS!

OCTOBER HOT PICKS!

by Cliff Biggers

If you looked at last week's CSN Checklist for October, you know that the number of comics being released hasn't decreased at all since the summer peak--but your spare cash may have. In that case, this look at the Top Two

Dozen Hot Picks may be the most important budget-saver you can find!

Aliens Vs. Predator 3

After setting independent comics sales records this summer, you'd

think this series has to fall off in popularity--but it just isn't happening! If anything, the word of mouth about the storyline in the first two issues is making this third issue even hotter. If you thought this miniseries would just be an excuse for a lot of violence

and gore, you're mistaken--there's a really strong storyline in here as well! (Dark Horse, \$2.50)

**Batman 457**

DC is making the world aware of the debut of the new Robin in this comic book; you remember what happened the last time DC promoted a Robin-event, don't you? There will be non-fans galore coming in to comic shops to find a copy of this one--don't be left out! (DC, \$1)

Crow 5

At long last, Jim O'Barr's story is complete with the release of the final issue of this limited series. It's a 64-page grand extravaganza final issue, filled with lots of surprises, lots of style, and lots of O'Barr artwork. (Caliber, \$4.95)



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CSN HOT PICKS!

Dark Horse Presents 46

The **Aliens Vs. Predator** series is setting sales records for Dark Horse. **Predator** was such a phenomenally popular limited series that Dark Horse has a second series waiting in the wings. The second **Predator** film is due out this fall. And this issue of **DHP** features a Predator story by John Arcudi and Rob Walton that leads in to the Arcudi-Dorkin limited series. Once the movie is released, you won't be able to find this book for cover price anywhere--so get it while you can! (Dark Horse, \$1.95)

Fafhrd & Grey Mouser 1

Heroic fantasy isn't as popular nowadays as it once was--but **Fafhrd and Grey Mouser** isn't typical heroic fantasy. This limited series features the classic Fritz Leiber sword-and-sorcery "anti-heroes" in Howard Chaykin-scripted adaptations of the original short stories. Chaykin is a strong selling point here--but the clincher is Mike Mignola, who pencils the series. Each Mignola book seems to be hotter than the previous project; look for **Fafhrd and Grey Mouser** to breathe life into a genre that can use the resuscitation. (Marvel, \$4.50)

Fantastic Four 347

Just listing the assets of this book explains why it's a hot pick. Walt Simonson wrote it. Arthur Adams drew it. It's the first issue of a three-part story guest-starring Wolverine, Spider-Man, Ghost Rider, Punisher, and the Incredible Hulk. Talk about having something for everyone!... (Marvel, \$1)



Flash Gordon Volume 1: Mongo, Planet of Doom HC

Alex Raymond is near the top of any pantheon of great comic artists--and **Flash Gordon** is the strip he's best known for. What few of us realized

but he's illustrating it as well. The last time Grell illustrated Green Arrow (in **Longbow Hunters**), it revitalized the character; this time, it'll bring back some of that earlier fan excitement. (DC, \$1.25)

James Bond 007 3

Mike Grell's been busy! After months of no Grell artwork, fans gets two Grell-illustrated projects within a couple of weeks of each other. **James Bond 007 3** wraps up the miniseries starring the most popular spy of all. Sure, it's been over a year since the second issue appeared--but fans don't forget James Bond (or Mike Grell) that easily... (Eclipse, \$4.95)

Last American 1

Fans have been clamoring for this book for so long that some are calling it "At Last, American." Actually, that shows just how much interest there is

Batman 457

for this Wagner-Grant-McMahon post-apocalyptic adventure tale. Fans of the genre know that no one can tell a post-apocalyptic story like the British; don't let this one slip past you. (Marvel, \$2.25)

Leatherface 1

Leatherface is the ultimate splatter-antihero; this month he moves from **The Texas Chainsaw Massacre** to the comics rack, gore and all. Northstar's splatter-comics have a fan following all their own; when you combine that with the built-in fan-following that any **Texas Chainsaw Massacre** tie-in will have, you'll have an instant sell-out. (Northstar, \$2.75)

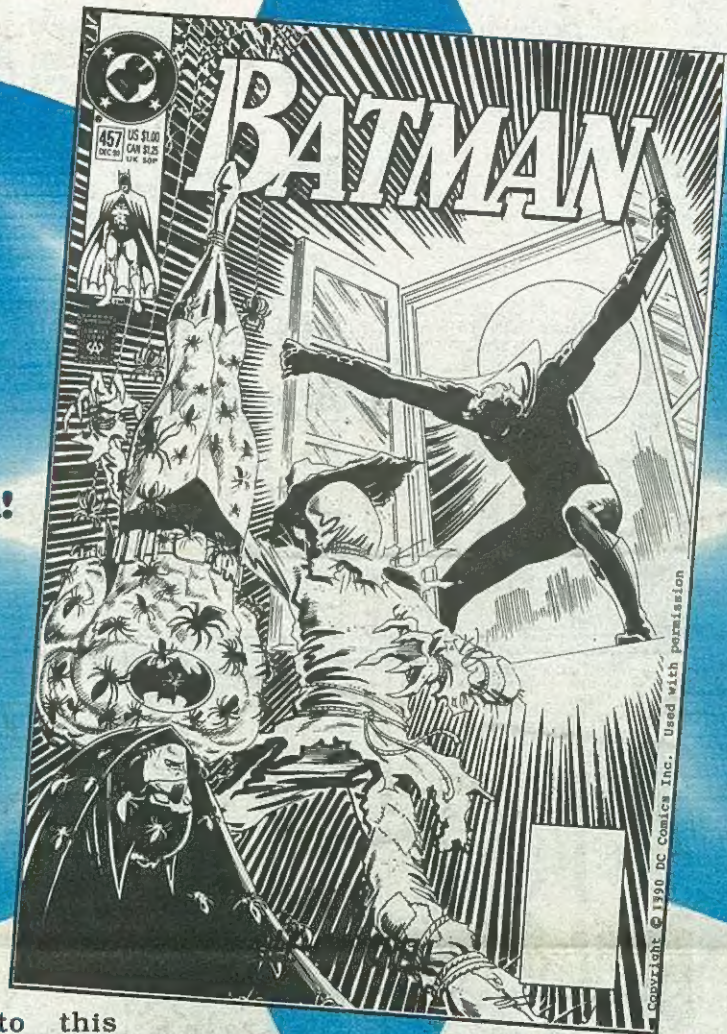


Marvel Comics Presents 64

Marvel Comics Presents 65

Ghost Rider and Wolverine team up in an eight-part storyline that begins this month. You remember Ghost Rider, don't you? He's the character whose books are constantly replaced by "Sold Out" signs. Does that tell you anything? (Marvel, \$1.25)

Cover of the Month!



prior to this Kitchen Sink volume is that the lavish color in these 1930's Sunday pages was almost as attractive as Raymond's artwork. This hardcover (the first in a multi-volume series) introduces all the elements that define Flash Gordon--and the entire space-adventurer genre. (Kitchen Sink, \$34.95)

From the Darkness 1

Horror comics are enjoying a real boom period right now--and well-done horror comics are meeting with particularly strong success. That's why **From the Darkness**, a new action-packed vampire miniseries by Ed Polgardy and Jim Balent, is sure to sizzle this fall. It has a strong vampire storyline, a Vietnam tie-in (the main character is a Vietnam vet being pursued by vampires who want him to turn over his dead brother to them), and strong story and art in a powerful, adult storyline. Once people see the quality of **From the Darkness**, it won't languish on the racks. (Adventure, \$2.50)

Green Arrow 40

For the first time ever, Mike Grell is not only writing this issue of the monthly **Green Arrow** title,

Hawkworld Annual 1

In the Silver Age, Hawkman and the Atom often teamed up, while Flash's usual cohort was Green Lantern. That was the 60's; this is the 90's; now, it's Hawkman and Flash who team up. A first issue, a hero team-up, and an eye-catching Tim Truman cover--don't expect this book to languish on the shelves! (DC, \$2.95)

Hollywood Superstars 1

Mark Evanier knows Hollywood; he's worked there for many years now. As a result, some of his best comics work has been set in tinsel town. His critically-acclaimed **Crossfire** series showed just what Evanier could do with the Hollywood mythos; this time around, he blends his insider's view of the town and the film medium with a touch of Ford Fairlane. This story of a trio of Hollywood detectives--each of whom is a part of the film industry in one way or another--is filled with those Evanier Hollywood touches that made **Crossfire** sparkle. As a bonus, **Hollywood Superstars** offers Evanier text pieces about working in Hollywood--and Sergio Aragones supplies the illos. (Marvel, \$2.95)

CSN HOT PICKS!



Marvel Masterworks 14: Captain America

This volume was supposed to appear after we got the Simon and Kirby Golden Age *Captain America* two-volume set; thanks to the quirks of the comics industry, it'll appear before that set—but ultimately, who cares?! The stories can be enjoyed without any knowledge of those Golden Age stories—after all, that's the way a lot of us enjoyed them over two decades ago. This is prime Kirby material, featuring the twenty-four Captain America stories that defined the hero for the Silver Age. Talk about must-have items... (Marvel, \$34.95)

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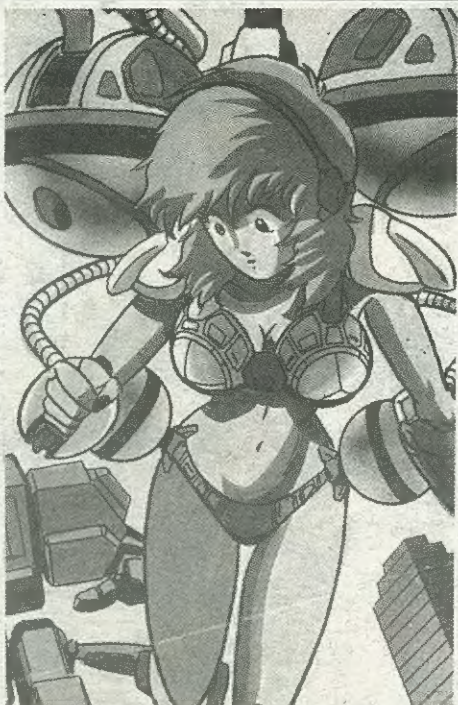
CSN HOT PICKS!

Metal Bikini 1

Jason Waltrip has captured the feel of a Japanese battle-armor manga and the innocent sexiness of Lum in this totally original series that is sheer fun from cover to cover. It may not have a real Japanese manga tie-in--but it doesn't need it! (*Eternity*, \$2.25)

Mummy 1

Anne Rice's *Vampire Lestat* was the sleeper hit of 1989; subsequent reprintings of early issues of the Innovation series have outsold original first issues by many publishers. Now a new company, Millennium, is adapting another Anne Rice series (based on her novel *The Mummy, or Ramses the Damned*) to comics--but they've hooked *Vampire Lestat* scripter Faye Perozich to maintain the level of quality that made *Lestat* a hit. (*Millennium*, \$2.50)



Revolver 1

Fleetway-Quality has blurred that this series will give fans a chance to see the new British comics sensations when they're new, rather than having to wait a few years for the American market to discover them. And you know, they're right! Of course, there's a touch of the old here as well--

such as the revitalized Dan Dare. *Revolver* is sure to appeal to anyone who has enjoyed the unique flavor of modern British comics. (*Fleetway-Quality*, \$4.95)

Spider-Man 5

Todd McFarlane remains hotter than a Georgia summer; fans can't wait to see how this saga of the Lizard, Spider-Man, and Kraven the hunter comes to an end. The demand for *Spider-*

Man #5 will get even stronger once the sixth issue (guest-starring Ghost Rider) appears; any fans who missed any issues between the must-have #s 1 and 6 and will go back and pick 'em up just to keep the run complete. *Spider-Man* is hotter now than X-Men ever was, and it doesn't look like it's cooling off with the fall weather. (Marvel, \$1.75)

Spider-Man Keepsake Collection

It sounds odd, but it's also going to be a much-sought-after collector's item: this collection offers six 6" x 9" black and white reproductions of the first five issues of Spider-Man (including two different versions of #1). It'll also include a special full-color press sheet featuring the six covers in full color, trading-card sized. The whole thing is limited to only 5000 numbered copies, packaged in a special collector's envelope. Could it be the rarest McFarlane Spider-Man collectible of all?... (*Comic Images*, \$14.99)

Superman Archives 2

Last year, *Superman Archives 1* was one of the most popular of all

hardcover comic-related gift items; anyone who enjoyed that volume will certainly want this companion edition that reprints *Superman* 5-8 in the same format. A side-note: this volume has a much smaller print run than the first volume, so don't pass on it while you have the chance... (DC, \$39.95)

Overlooked Gem of the Month

The first martial arts comic I ever remember reading was a reprint of *Black Cat* issued by Harvey Comics when I was a child; I was fascinated by the mixture of Hollywood glamour, good-girl art (hey, I could spot this stuff even then!), and believable martial arts. Now Recollections gives today's readers a chance to enjoy these stories by Elias, Kubert, Rockwell, and others in *The Original Black Cat* #3. The first two issues of this series were sellouts when they appeared in 1989; don't let this third issue slip past you. If you want to see real good-girl adventure comics rather than today's paler imitations, *The Original Black Cat* is a comic you owe it to yourself to check out.

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The Dawn of a New Age...

META 4

Beginning in October!

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